

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES  
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION  
Olympia, Washington**

**To:** All Prescribers  
Pharmacists  
Managed Care Plans  
Regional Administrators  
CSO Administrators

**Memorandum No. 02-84 MAA**  
**Issued:** November 1, 2002

**For Information Call:**  
1-800-562-6188

**From:** Douglas Porter, Assistant Secretary  
Medical Assistance Administration

**Subject:** Acceptable Identifiers for Prescriber ID Field

**Effective January 1, 2003**, the Medical Assistance Administration (MAA) will deny claims for the Prescription Drug Program if the prescriber's name is entered in the Prescriber ID field. MAA will only authorize payment for claims that meet the criteria in this memorandum.

MAA will accept only the following identifiers in the Prescriber ID field:

- **Preferred prescriber ID:** Prescriber's 9-digit DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) number; or
- **Alternative prescriber ID:** Prescribing providers who do not have a DEA number must continue to use their 7-digit DSHS provider number.



**Exceptions:**

- ✓ Use 9777707 in the Prescriber ID field when pharmacies bill:

- **Over-the-counter (OTC) contraceptives/supplies;** and
- **Emergency Contraception Pills.**

**Note:** Pharmacies who contract with managed care plans must bill the plan.

- ✓ **Dental prescriptions for Healthy Options clients.** Pharmacists must continue to bill using the 7-digit DSHS Dental Provider Number beginning with "5."

Prescribers must provide their DEA number or prescriber ID number on all prescriptions for Medical Assistance clients.

If this change requires a system modification, please contact your individual software vendor for assistance.

To obtain MAA's Billing Instructions and/or Numbered Memorandums electronically, go to: <http://maa.dshs.wa.gov> [Provider Publications/Fee Schedules link].



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